I here certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on JANUARY 7, 2002.

LAW OFFICES OF JONATHAN ALAN QUINE

Attorney Docket No.: 02-020622US Client Ref. No.: 0104.132US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Jeremy Minshull et al.

Application No.: 09/490,643

Filed: January 24, 2000

For: METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS FOR CELLULAR AND METABOLIC

ENGINEERING

Examiner: Whisenant, E

Art Unit: 1655

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R § 1.111

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated July 5, 2001, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following amendments and remarks. Applicants note that the six month date for reply, January 5, 2001, falls on a Saturday. Therefore, filing of this response on Monday, January 7, 2001 is proper. The following documents are enclosed herewith:

- 1) a petition to extend the period of response for 3 months:
- 2) a version with markings to show changes made to the specification and claims (Appendix A);
- 3) a courtesy copy of the pending claims (Appendix B);
- 4) a transmittal sheet;
- 5) a fee transmittal sheet; and,
- 6) a receipt indication postcard.